

NATURAL DRAINAGE BASINS

MAJOR, REGIONAL, SUBREGIONAL AND LOCAL WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

LEGEND

- Basin Boundary**
- Major Basin
 - Regional Basin
 - Subregional Basin
 - Local Basin
- Local Drainage Basin Direction**
- Outlet Direction
 - Main Stem Direction
 - Coastal Direction
- Elevation**
- High - 2,413 FT
 - Low - 1 FT

EXPLANATION

This map shows the location and identification number of major, regional, subregional, and local drainage basins. It is intended to serve as a municipal guide for drainage basin delineation and identification. Local basins make up larger subregional, regional, and major drainage basin areas and are differentiated by their drainage basin boundary type and identification numbers. Arrows on the map represent general direction of surface water flow within local drainage basins. Local outlet direction is shown in purple. Main stem direction is shown in red. Coastal direction is shown in blue.

A 7-digit drainage basin number such as 4302-02 uniquely identifies local drainage basin areas shown on this map. Drainage basin areas are numbered sequentially beginning upstream and proceeding downstream. The identification numbers are hierarchical. The first digit (column 1) identifies the major basin. The first two digits (columns 1-2) identify the regional basin, the first 4 digits (columns 1-4) identify the subregional basin, and the first seven digits (columns 1-7) identify the local basin. For example, 4, 43, and 4302 are the major, regional and subregional basin numbers for local basin number 4302-02. As illustrated in the diagram below, this signifies that local basin number 4302-02 is part of subregional basin 4302, which is part of regional basin 43, which is part of major basin 4.

Drainage basin boundaries shown on this map were manually delineated by interpreting the 10 foot contour lines and hydrography features shown on USGS 1:24,000-scale topographic quadrangle maps. Only limited field checking was conducted to verify the location of these basin boundaries. Basin boundaries may not be accurate in areas that have been altered for flood control, upland wetland and reservoirs having outlets into two basins, areas where

topographic mapping is not up to date, is inaccurate, or is not detailed enough to adequately define local drainage. Residential and commercial development, highway construction, and other changes to the landscape may have resulted in local modifications to the natural drainage pattern since the time these basin boundaries were delineated.

In order to create a three-dimensional effect, this map uses gradational shades of color rather than contour lines to depict elevation. Areas of low elevation in Connecticut are shown in light blue. Areas slightly higher in elevation are shown in light yellow, followed by green, orange, red, brown, gray, and white for the highest elevated areas in Connecticut. The three-dimensional effect is also achieved by showing shadows cast on high ground as if sunlight is shining from the northwestern direction. As a result, the northwestern side of elevated areas is intentionally lighter in color than the southeastern side. Relatively flat areas are not shadowed and appear smooth, whereas steeper slopes appear rough with the southeastern side appearing darker in color. The elevation colors shown on this map do not represent vegetation or climate regions. For a more absolute determination of elevation for locations within a basin, refer to the companion map of Natural Drainage Basins that depicts elevation as contour lines instead of shaded relief.

Note: The major, regional and subregional drainage basin boundaries shown on this map are the same as those published on the 1:125,000-scale state map entitled Natural Drainage Basins in Connecticut, McElroy, 1981. The basin boundaries shown on this town map were digitized from the 1:24,000-scale computerized sheets used to publish the state map of Natural Drainage Basins in Connecticut, 1981.

